

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 SPC-01 EB-03 INR-10 INRE-00 PM-03

AID-10 DRC-01 RSC-01 /057 W
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P 171231Z NOV 73

FM MEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO CINCPAC PRIORITY

INFO COMUSMACTHAI PRIORITY

COMUSSAG PRIORITY

DAO SAIGON PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3828

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

CJCS PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 12666

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, CB, VS

SUBJECT: PILLAR POST

REF: (A) CINCPAC MSG O P 140324Z NOV 73 (B) PHNOM PENH 12193
(C) STATE 224563 (D) PHNOM PENH 12374 (E) STATE 224376

THIS MESSAGE CONSTITUTES THIS EMBASSY'S COMMENTS TO REF (A).

COMENTS ARE KEYED TO PARAGRAPH NUMBERS IN REF (A).

PARA 1 REF (B) CITES NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DECISION ON
ACCELERATING DELIVERIES OF PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED RICE SALES TO
CAMBODIA. WE NOTE THAT NEITHER STATE NOR AID HAVE COMMENTED
UPON THE POL BUILD-UP AND OUR COMMENTS BELOW MUST BE VIEWED
ACCORDINGLY.

PARA. 3.(1)(D). ASSUMPTIONS (1); REF (D) REQUESTED ALLOCATION
FO FUNDING FOR POL BUILD-UP.

PARA. 3.(1)(D). ASSUMPTIONS (2); THE EMBASSY ANTICIPATES NO
PROBLEM IN COORDINATION WITH TELA KHMER.

PARA. 3.A. EMBASSY'S LATEST REVISED PLANNING CALLS FOR
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MINIMUM 56-DAY SUPPLY OF RICE BY DECEMBER 31, 1973 RATHER

THAN THE 45-DAY SUPPLY RECOMMENDED REFTEL. EMBASSY IS AWARE OF CONSTRAINING FACTORS IN PHNOM PENH PORT RECEPTION CAPABILITY WHICH INCLUDE LIMITED BERTH SPACE AND SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER. THE LATTER CONSTRAINT MAY BE A RESULT OF THE GKR'S MOBILIZATION EFFORTS. STEVEDORES ARE BEING DRAFTED BY THE ARMY AND/OR DO NOT REPORT FOR WORK IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID THE DRAFT. EMBASSY WILL UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GKR RELATIVE TO INCREASING PHNOM PENH PORT RECEPTION CAPABILITY. POSSIBILITIES INCLUDE OPERATING TWO OR THREE SHIFTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY; DRAFT EXEMPTION FOR STEVEDORES; USE OF ARMY RECRUITS AS MANUAL LABOR; AND INTENSIVE UTILIZATION OF MHE.

PARA.3.A.(1)(A). OUR DELIVERY OBJECTIVE VIA MEKONG CONVOYS IS 9,000 M/T FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 18 THROUGH 30. NOTE THAT 4,000 M/T ARRIVED NOVEMBER 16. CURRENT TARGET FOR DECEMBER IS 16,000 M/T ALTHOUGH EMBASSY IS STUDYING FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING THIS TARGET BY DIVERTING U.S. RICE SHIPMENTS FROM KOMPONG SOM TO SAIGON FOR TRANSSHIPMENT TO PHNOM PENH VIA THE MEKONG.

PARA. 3.A.(1)(B). RICE AUTHORIZED FOR PROCUREMENT BUT NOT YET DELIVERED AS OF NOVEMBER 18 IS AS FOLLOWS: (REF (C))

THAILAND	2,950 M/T
JAPAN	5,000 M/T
KOREA	17,800 M/T
VIETNAM	15,000 M/T
U.S.	60,000 M/T

ANOTHER 75,000 M/T OF U.S. RICE IS IN PROCESS OF BEING AUTHORIZED BY AID/WASHINGTON. THE 6,800 M/T MENTIONED IN REF (A) DOES NOT ACCORD WITH FOREGOING.

PARA.3.A(1)(C). PHASE II. WE EXPECT RICE STOCKS WILL BE BUILT TO 90-DAY SUPPLY BY LATE JANUARY 1974.

PARA. 3.A(2)(C). EXECUTION OF THE TARGET IS FEASIBLE IF AN ADDITIONAL TANKER IS MADE AVAILABLE TO BRING THE FLEET TO 9 TANKERS. IT IS OUR ESTIMATE THAT 5 CONVOYS OF 9 TANKERS EACH WITH A 9-DAY TURN-AROUND WILL BE REQUIRED.

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THIS ALSO PRESUPPOSES LOADING FACILITIES AT NHA BE CAPABLE OF ACCOMMODATING ALL 9 VESSELS WITHIN 24 HOURS WITH THE PRODUCT MIX REQUIRED.

PARA 3.B. (1)(A). (1) AID/W, USDA, AMEMB PHNOM PENH/USAID AND USAID/SAIGON ARE CONTINUOUSLY COORDINATING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF RICE ALREADY PROCURED. FIRM BOOKINGS ARE ALREADY SECURED FOR SHIPMENTS THROUGH MID-DECEMBER.

PARA. 3.B. (1)(A). (2) CINCPAC'S REQUEST FOR PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPORTATION OF AN ADDITIONAL 6,800 M/T IS NOT UNDERSTOOD BY AMEMB PHNOM PENH IN VIEW OF ABOVE TONNAGE ALREADY AUTHORIZED BUT NOT YET DELIVERED.

PARA. 3.B. (1)(A). (3) ON-GOING PROCUREMENT AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHIPMENTS WILL ENSURE A 90-DAY LEVEL BY LATE JANUARY 1974. FROM PRESENTLY SCHEDULED DELIVERIES TO PHNOM PENH VIA THE MEKONG AND/OR KOMPONG SOM/ROUTE 4 AMEMB PHNOM PENH PROJECTS THE FOLLOWING SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION TABLE:

NOV 73

AS OF 11/18 DEC 73 JAN 74 FEB 74

OPENING STOCK	9,700	10,700	36,700	66,700
DELIVERIES	9,000	46,000	50,000	25,000
TOTAL AVAILABILITY	18,700	56,700	86,700	91,700
LESS DISTRIBUTION	8,000	20,000	20,000	18,000
(650 M/T A DAY)				
CLOSING STOCK	10,700	36,700	66,700	73,700
NO DAY'S SUPPLY	16	56	102	113
(650 M/T A DAY)				

PARA. 3.B. (1)(A). (4) DEPENDING ON THE DECISION TO MOVE MORE RICE THROUGH SAIGON THAN PRESENTLY SCHEDULED, AMEMB STANDS READY TO ASSIST THE GKR IN INCREASING ITS RICE OFFLOAD CAPABILITY AT PHNOM PENH PORT. STEPS UNDER CONSIDERATION ARE LISTED ABOVE.

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 SPC-01 EB-03 INR-10 INRE-00 PM-03

AID-10 DRC-01 RSC-01 /057 W

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P 171231Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO CINCPAC PRIORITY

INFO COMUSMACHTAI PRIORITY

COMUSSAG PRIORITY

DAO SAIGON PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3829
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
CJCS PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 12666

LIMDIS

PARA. 3.B. (3) (B) (1). EMBASSY REQUESTED NECESSARY FUNDS FOR THE BUILDUP IN REF (D) AND WAS ADVISED BY REF (E) THAT TOTAL AID FUNDING REQUIREMENTS COULD BE REVIEWED IN LIGHT OF FUNDING AVAILABILITIES.

PARA. 3B. (3) (B) (2). NECESSARY COORDINATION WITH TELA KHMER WILL BE EFFECTED.

PAR. 4. (A) (1) (A). THE OBJECTIVE OF 45-DAY SUPPLY WILL BE ACHIEVED BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1973. THE 90-DAY LEVEL SHOULD BE REACHED BY LATE JANUARY 1974.

PARA. 4 A, (2) (C). THERE IS A BASIC ERROR IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE POL USAGE IN CUBIC METERS. THE FIGURES LISTED IN THE COLUMN HEADED "CIVIL" REPRESENT THE TOTAL, I.E. BOTH CIVILIAN AND FANK CONSUMPTION, CIVIL CONSUMPTION BEING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COLUMNS HEADED "FANK" AND "CIVIL". WE HAVE REVIEWED WITH TELA KHMER AND THE OIL COMPANIES THE CONSUMPTION IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS AND ESTABLISHED THAT CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE. MILITARY SECTOR CONSUMPTION REMAINED THE SAME EXCEPT THAT THE USE OF JP-4 DECREASED FROM THE PREVIOUS 35 CUBIC METERS TO 25 CUBIC METERS. THE CONSUMPTION OF AVGAS 115/145 INCREASED TO 52 CUBIC METERS PER DAY AS COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS 38 CUBIC METERS PER DAY. THE CONSUMPTION LEVELS FOR ADO WILL INCREASE TO 276 CUBIC METERS PER DAY
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BECAUSE OF AMOUNTS NEEDED FOR PHNOM PENH'S NEW GENERATORS. THE NEW CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOLLOW: MO 157 OF WHICH 57 MILITARY AND 100 CIVILIAN; KO - 100 CIVILIAN; ADO - 276 OF WHICH 76 MILITARY AND 200 CIVILIAN; IDO - 120 CIVILIAN; FO - 150 CIVILIAN; JP-1 - 12, SLIGHT INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS 10; JP-4 - 25, DECREASE FROM THE PREVIOUS 35; AVGAS 100/130 - 40, INCREASE FROM PREVIOUS 25; AVGAS 115/145 - 70 OF WHICH 52 MILITARY AND 18 CIVILIAN.

PARA. 4B. (1)(A). THE EXPANSION TO 12,000 M/T PER WEEK OF THE DISCHARGE CAPABILITY OF RICE AT PHNOM PENH PORT WILL BE EXPLORED.

PAR. 4B. (1)(C). OUR RECALCULATION INDICATES THAT THE TOTAL CUBIC METERS OF POL TO BE TRANSPORTED BETWEEN NOVEMBER 3 AND END OF THE YEAR TO ACHIEVE THE TARGET IS 82,713 CUBIC METERS. THIS IS PREDICATED ON THE 60 DAYS BUILDUP OF ADO ALSO FOR CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION AND REDUCTION OF IDO TO A 30 DAY SUPPLY. THROUGH NOVEMBER 16, 15,300 CUBIC METERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN TRANSPORTED, LEAVING A BALANCE OF 67,413 TO BE MOVED. UNDER THE MOST IDEAL CONDITIONS, MEANING NO LOADING LIMITATIONS IN NHABE, THE TARGET CAN BE ACHIEVED IN 5 CONVOYS COMPOSED OF 9 TANKERS

EACH AT A FREQUENCY OF EVERY 9 DAYS. STATED DIFFERENTLY, 9 TANKERS MAKING 5 CONVOYS EACH WILL BE REQUIRED. THE CHARTER OF ONE MORE TANKER WILL BE NECESSARY BECAUSE ONLY 8 TANKERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR MEKONG USE.

PARA. 4.C. (1) (A). WE HAVE VERIFIED THAT GKR HAS APPROXIMATELY 70,000 M/T RICE STORAGE UNDER CONTRACT WITH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND/OR PRIVATE MERCHANTS.

PARA. 4.C.(1)(C). THE CUBIC METER FIGURES LISTED IN REF (A) FOR STORAGE BY PRODUCTS REPRESENT THE THEORETICAL CAPACITY OF THE TANKS. AS THESE CAN NEVER BE FULLY FILLED, EITHER BECAUSE OF THEIR SHAPE OR ACCUMULATED SEDIMENT, ABOUT 5 PERCENT SHOULD BE TAKEN OFF TO ARRIVE AT THE PRACTICAL USEABLE CAPACITY. IN OTHER WORDS, ACCORDING TO OUR RECALCULATION THE TOTAL IS ABOUT 41,800 AS COMPARED TO THE REFTEL FIGURE OF 42,924. THIS TOTAL INCLUDES CAPACITIES OF COMMERCIAL, MILITARY AND FLOATING STORAGE, THAT OF POWER PLANTS AS WELL AS OF THE PRINCIPAL CIVILIAN USERS.

PARA. 4.D.(1)(A). RICE STOCK LEVEL DISCUSSED ABOVE.

PARA.4.D(2)(C). OF THE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE 9 TANKERS, ONLY 8 CAN BE USED FOR THE MEKONG RUN. THE VIRA 5 MUST BE RESERVED FOR THE SUPPLY OF KOMPONG SOM AND KAMPOT, AND IN ANY EVENT IS NOT ABLE TO GENERATE THE MAXIMUM CONVOY SPEED
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REQUIRED.

PARA. 4.D.(3)(A). PHNOM PENH RECEPTION CAPABILITY AS A CONSTRAINING FACTOR HAS ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED ABOVE.

PARA. 4.D.(3)(C). ACCORDING TO THE OIL COMPANIES AND TELA KHMER, THE LOADING CAPACITY ATNHA BE IS LIMITED PER 24 HOURS TO 3 TANKERS AT SHELL FACILITIES, ONE AT ESSO, AND ONE AT CALTEX, AND THEN ONLY UNDER THE CONDITIONS THAT NO INCOMING TANKERS ARE DISCHARGING. THIS LIMITS THE NUMBER OF TANKERS TO BE LOADED AT THE PERMANENT SHORE FACILITIES TO 5 PER 24 HOURS.

PARA. 6.A. STARTING WITH THE RICE SITUATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 18, DATA REQUESTED IN SUB-PARA 1, 2, 3, AND 4 OF PARA. 6.A. WILL BE INCLUDED TO THE EXTENT THEY ARE NOT ALREADY IN THE REPORT.

PARA. 6.C. THE WEEKLY POL REPORT IS NORMALLY DISPATCHED COB SATURDAY. THE REQUESTED INFORMATION HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN THE POL REPORT DISPATCHED TODAY, NOVEMBER 17.

CHMEDTC COMMENTS ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF REF (A) HAVE BEEN SENT TO YOU BY SEPARATE MESSAGE.
ENGLE

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O:MISS ELTZ
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